

JustServe Connects Volunteers with Projects

Looking for ways to volunteer in your community or have a community project you need volunteers for? You might want to visit www.JustServe.org.

JustServe connects churches, civic organizations, non-profits, and governmental agencies that need volunteers with people willing to help. There are multiple local projects already on this easy-to-use site.

The City of Upland is using JustServe to find volunteers for the Gibson Senior Center while St. Joseph's Catholic Church is seeking volunteers to aid its holiday food distribution effort.

Searching for a volunteer opportunity is as simple as typing your community into a search engine and clicking “submit.”

The Website offers four guidelines on what types of service projects can be advertised:

The best service opportunities are collaborative—working side-by-side with others in the community.

Humanitarian service opportunities should assist the poor and those in need of a helping hand.

Community service opportunities should enhance the quality of life in the community.

JustServe projects should not directly involve volunteers in fundraising, have a political focus or be for-profit oriented.

JustServe is a free web-based service provide by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Upcoming Events

December 13	The City of Fontana will host “Festival of Winter” at Miller Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Enjoy live music, food vendors, crafts and real snow!
December 13	The Fontana Exchange Club will host the annual Christmas parade on Sierra Avenue starting at 10 a.m. at Arrow Route and Sierra Avenue. Call (909) 350-4683 for more information.
December 16	The City of Rancho Cucamonga and the Rancho Cucamonga Fire District will host a CPR course from 6 to 10 p.m. at Fire Station 173. Register for the class at Central Park, by visiting www.rcpark.com or by calling (909) 477-2765. There is a \$60 fee to attend the class.
December 21	Contemporary Jazz Piano legend David Benoit pays tribute to an incredible piece of entertainment history in “David Benoit Christmas Tribute to Charlie Brown.”The event takes place at 2 p.m. at the Lewis Playhouse in Rancho Cucamonga. This inspirational tribute concert features the classic music of Vince Guaraldi along with “Charlie Brown Christmas” and will also feature the young voices of a local children's choir. Call (909) 477-2752 for ticket information.
January 5	The City of Upland will accept applications for its popular “Biggest Loser Challenge” until January 29. Start a team and take the 10-week challenge to lose weight and get fit. Winners will be announced at the Lemon Festival in April. The cost is \$50 per team. Call the Upland Recreation Division at (909) 931-4280 for more information.
January 6	The Archibald Library in Rancho Cucamonga hosts a free computer class at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays. Pre-registration is recommended. Call (909) 477-2720 ext. 5007 to register. Signups begin at 10 a.m. The library is located at 7368 Archibald Avenue in Rancho Cucamonga.
January 7	The Biane Library in Rancho Cucamonga hosts a free computer class in the technology room at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays. Pre-registration is recommended. Call (909) 477-2720 ext. 5071 to register. Signups begin at 10 a.m. The library is located at is located at 12505 Cultural Center Drive in Rancho Cucamonga.
January 14	The Fontana Chamber of Commerce will host a federal and state income tax workshop from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the chamber office located at 8491 Sierra Avenue. Call (909) 822-4433 for more information.
January 18	The Victoria Gardens Cultural Center will host the 2nd annual “Down the Aisle...Wedding Style Bridal Expo” from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Brides who pre-register before January 12 get in free and guests are only \$5. Entrance the day of the event is \$10. Pre-register at the Lewis Family Playhouse Box Office at (909) 477-2752 or online at vgculturalcenter.com/events . The Victoria Gardens Cultural Center is located at 12505 Cultural Center Drive in Rancho Cucamonga.
January 23	The Upland Chamber of Commerce will host “Taste of the IE” from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Upland Hills Country Club Wedgewood Wedding and Banquet Center. This is a 21-and-older event. Tickets cost \$65. Contact the Upland Chamber at (909) 204-4465 for information.
January 29	The Fontana Chamber of Commerce will host the annual “State of the City” address at the Sierra Lakes Country Club. Contact the chamber at (909) 822-4433 to purchase tickets or for more information.

Dates and times are subject to change without notice. Please contact Supervisor Rutherford’s office at (909) 387-4833 if you have any questions or suggestions for the Events Calendar. You can view information about more local events on Supervisor Rutherford’s home page at www.sbcounty.gov/rutherford.

THE RUTHERFORD Report

THE NEWSLETTER OF SECOND DISTRICT SUPERVISOR JANICE RUTHERFORD

Winter 2015



Inmate firefighters cut fire lines and perform a variety of work through a new program established by the Sheriff's Department and Fire Department.

Tomorrow hopes we
have learned something
from yesterday.

—John Wayne

County Expanding Inmate Fire Crews

About a year and a half ago, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and Fire Department launched an ambitious pilot program to train inmates to work as firefighters.

Since then, the County has opened an 8-acre inmate fire camp, and there are three inmate fire hand crews with a total of 45 members.

A fourth crew is in training and another is expected to begin training shortly.

“The program has been a tremendous success, and the fire crews are a great resource for the County,” Fire Chief Mark Hartwig said.

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Fontana Native Touched Many Lives



It was Christmas day, and Fontana School Police Officer Cindy Evaro was searching for a 12-year-old boy who had run away from home because his family couldn't afford to buy any presents.

When Cindy's friend, Lydia Salazar Wibert, called to check what time she would arrive for an annual

holiday gathering, Cindy told her she wouldn't be able to make it because she was too worried about the missing boy.

Later on, Cindy and Lydia decided to start a program that would provide Christmas gifts to under privileged children in the city. They called it Fontana Santas.

“Cindy didn't want that to happen to another family on Christmas,” Wibert said.

The two enlisted the help of the Fontana Unified School Police and called on local service clubs and businesses to support the effort.

“We just started collecting more and more toys and continued to grow and grow,” Wibert said.

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Today, nearly 17 years since that little boy ran away, Fontana Santas has become one of the largest toy drives in the city.

Ever year hundreds of volunteers—including many youth—fan out across the city to collect toys and to find families in need of assistance.

Unfortunately this year, Cindy Evaro—whose smile and energy could light a room—will not be here to relish in the merriment of the boys and girls who will benefit from Fontana Santas.

Cindy passed away in September at the age of 57.

Cindy was born and raised in Fontana, and she was committed to improving and supporting her community.

As a Fontana Unified School District Resource Officer, Cindy worked to keep local schools safe and tracked down truant students. But she will probably be remembered most for her “Parrot Patrol” shows.

Cindy—whose home was filled with critters of all sorts—had a knack for training parrots, and she used the birds

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Sheriff John McMahon said the program has provided inmates with new skills they can use to find jobs after their release, and it’s also given them a sense of self-worth.

“These guys are learning how good it feels to serve their community by helping people in need,” McMahon said.

In addition to aiding firefighters during multiple wildfires, the crews have laid sandbags to keep floodwater from people’s homes, cleaned up after mudslides in Mt. Baldy, and helped revive a curbside yard waste chipping program that was threatened by budget cuts.

Crews have also been tasked with removing limbs, brush and other fire fuels in various locations throughout the County.

The program was, in part, a response to California’s prison realignment law that shifted responsibility for detaining low-level convicts from state prisons to county jails in October 2011.

Jail populations swelled with the arrival of former state prisoners, including some who’d worked on fire crews run by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

along with some parrot puppets to teach elementary school children about traffic safety.

“She cared about the kids, she loved her job, and she loved helping people,” Wibert said. “You could ask her for anything, and she would do it.”

Cindy retired from the Fontana Unified School District in 2011, but she continued her law enforcement connection as an active volunteer with the Fontana Police Department.

Earlier this year, the Police Department announced the city’s annual top volunteer recognition will now be called the Cindy Evaro Volunteer of the Year Award.

Anyone interested in supporting Fontana Santas can drop off new, unwrapped toys and any Fontana Unified School District school, City Hall, or at the Fontana Police Department.

Toys will be distributed starting at 8 a.m. on December 20 at the Police Department. Volunteers are welcome.

Cindy Evaro is survived by her daughter, Rochelle Gleason; her son, Tony Evaro; and her sister, Lani Nagy.

Realignment also led to inmates serving longer sentences in county jails.

That meant inmates could complete firefighter training and still have ample time left on their sentences to serve on a fire crew.

To be considered for a fire crew, inmates must be low-level offenders and have at least 15 to 18 months left on their sentence.

They also cannot have any documented gang affiliation, prior discipline, and must not be a flight risk.

Crew members are not electronically monitored due to the remote areas they work in, as well as the gear they must wear; however inmates remain under constant supervision.

The California Association of Counties recognized this innovative program with a 2014 Challenge Award.

Learn more about this and other fire safety programs and on the San Bernardino County Fire Department Website at www.sbcfire.org.

Jungle Exotics: From Ants to Elephants

About 26 years ago two animal trainers came together to transform a 60-acre ranch nestled in the Cajon Pass into a compound for animal actors.

Like so many business ventures, Jungle Exotics—which today boasts more than 1,000 credits in TV, films, and commercials—started with a chance encounter.

Co-founder Joe Camp was working at a plant nursery in Orange County in the 1970s when a friend asked him for a ride to a class being held at a Riverside-based company that provided animals for movies.

Camp, who earned degrees in Zoology and Economics from Rutgers University, would get out of his car and play with some of the animals at the facility while waiting for his friend’s class to finish. One day someone noticed his ability to connect with the animals and offered him a job.

“I have always had a fascination with animals; it’s something that was passed down by my father and grandfather,” he said. “They offered me a chance to be in the business, and I couldn’t resist.”

While there, Camp met Tammy Maples, who was working there full-time as an instructor and animal trainer. The two got to know each other, and in 1988, they purchased the former Price Ranch in Devore to start their own animal business.

Today the ranch is home to scores of animals, including dogs, cats, coyotes, wolves, tigers, and more, that are rented out for various productions. However, the Jungle Exotics team also works with a wide range of other creatures. For example, when a client needed jaguars for a shoot, Jungle

Exotics worked with the Brazilian Army, which keeps live jaguars as mascots, to provide and train the animals.

“We don’t have hundreds of animals here, but we have the ability to go about anywhere and find the animals we need,” Camp said.

Over the years, the company has worked with everything from ants to elephants, racking up credits on movies and TV shows such as The Hunger Games, Austin Powers, Castle, CSI Miami, and more.

A majority of the dogs and cats at the ranch are rescued from animal shelters in the Southern California area. The animals undergo obedience training to get them prepared for their debuts.

“It’s not really about teaching them tricks,” he said. “It’s getting them to understand that being on set is a pleasurable place to be.”

Jungle Exotics is conscientious about the animals it rescues or purchases to come live at the ranch.

“You have to remember that these animals are coming to live with you and become a part of your business family,” Camp said, noting the ranch was home to two wolves that lived to be 19.

The business is overseen by a variety of agencies, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture, California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the American Humane Society, as well as the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health.

For more information about this San Bernardino County business, visit www.junglexotics.com.

2nd District Trivia

Last Issue’s Answer: San Bernardino County is about 90 times larger than San Francisco County, which is the smallest county—by land mass—in the state.

Question: What San Bernardino County city hosted the first performance by The Rolling Stones in the United States?

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